

REMARKS

The Examiner has withdrawn the prior anticipation rejection over Matz U.S. Patent 5,821,539. The Examiner now rejects the claims as anticipated by or obvious over a new reference, Murakami U.S. Patent 5,483,120.

Applicant respectfully asserts that the pending claims 23, 25 and 26 patentably distinguish over Murakami '120 for the reasons set forth below.

The newly cited reference, U.S. 5,483,120 (Murakami), deals with the very different problem of facilitating the connection of an electrical power supply across a light-emissive material. Typically, contacts are provided on the respective electrodes on opposite sides of the light-emissive material and the electrical power supply is connected to the thus opposed contacts to apply a voltage across the light-emissive material. The alternative technique proposed in Murakami does away with the need to provide contacts on opposite sides of the light-emissive material. The Murakami technique involves providing the electrode on one side of the light-emissive material as a pair of sub-electrodes (or greater number of electrodes) and connecting the power supply across this pair of sub-electrodes on a common side of the light-emissive material. The resulting circuit is shown in Fig. 2 of Murakami, where (i) 14 is the capacitative/resistive connection between sub-electrode 5a and electrode 2 across the luminescent layer 3 (see Figs. 1(a) and 1(b)) ; (ii) 15 is the capacitative/resistive connection between sub-electrode 5b and electrode 2 across luminescent layer 3 (again of Figs. 1(a) and 1(b)); and (iii) the resistor linking 14 and 15 (see Fig. 2) is the resistive path provided by electrode 2 (again of Figs. 1(a) and 1(b)). The nature of this configuration is that the two sub-electrodes 5a and 5b must NOT be directly connected to each other via any fusible conductive link, since otherwise there would be a short

circuit across the power supply 13 (as shown on the attached modified version of Figure 2 of Murakami). Thus, Murakami teaches away from the fusible link structure of the Applicants' pending claims.

Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims 23, 25 and 26 is respectfully requested.


In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 1, 2004

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Attachment: Modified copy of Figs. 2 and 3(a) from U.S. Patent 5,483,120

FIG. 2

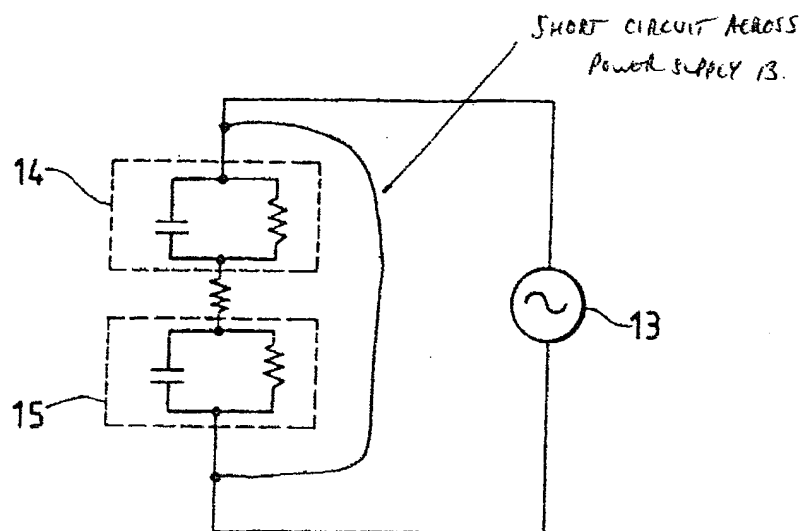


FIG. 3(a)

